

# **Neighborhood Partnership Program**

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## Neighborhood Partnership Program

The Neighborhood Partnership Program was created to build positive collaborative partnerships between neighborhoods, community organizations and the City of College Station. In order to carry out the Neighborhood Partnership Program's objective the Office of Neighborhood Services pledges to:

- Maintain a database of all registered neighborhood associations to enhance community communication;
- Provide start-up support to neighborhoods establishing or revitalizing associations;
- Notify associations of public hearing pertaining to development projects in the vicinity of their neighborhood;
- Distribution the *FY I Neighbor* email update to association board members providing information regarding neighborhood, community, and City events;
- Host monthly Seminar Suppers that provide a forum for networking and education on local and regional topics;
- Host monthly Exploring History Lunch Lectures. Guest speakers address some aspect of local history;
- Administer the Gateway Program to foster neighborhood identity and beautification; and
- Administer the Mosquito Abatement Program to facilitate the systematic reduction of mosquitoes and associated disease.

The following criteria was established to encourage neighborhood associations and the individuals making up the associations that register with the Neighborhood Partnership Program to function as democratic representatives of neighborhood residents.

**Boundaries.** Home owners' association boundaries are determined by deed restrictions. Neighborhood association and block club boundaries shall be established by the association membership. The boundaries may not overlap the boundaries of another formally registered association.

The following may be considered when establishing boundaries:

- Patterns of development and placement of property lines;
- Natural physical boundaries such as landforms and water bodies;
- Man-made boundaries such as major thoroughfares and street connection patterns; &
- Existing established affiliations based on population distribution and cultural factors.

### **Neighborhood Association and Block Club Membership**

Neighborhood association and Block Club membership should be open to all tenants and property owners residing within the neighborhood boundaries. Race, color, creed, sex, age, heritage, national origin, or income level shall not limit participation or membership. Neighborhood Associations dues and membership fees are voluntary.

#### **Homeowners Association Membership**

Homeowners Association are governed by the State of Texas Property Code. Membership guidelines are detailed in the property deed restrictions. Race, color, creed, sex, age, heritage, or national origin should not limit participation or membership. Homeowners associations are encouraged to involve non-property owner neighbors in their social and civic events.

**Bylaws**. Each association must adopt written bylaws. Bylaws must include a description of the organization, procedures for democratic voting and elections, and the process for the adoption and amendment of bylaws. A copy of the bylaws must be provided to Neighborhood Services.

<u>Meetings</u>. Associations should establish a meeting schedule. Quarterly meetings are encouraged with the minimum requirement of one general neighborhood meeting per year. Meetings and records should be open to all residents in the neighborhood. The time, place, and purpose of the meeting must be well publicized throughout the neighborhood prior to the meeting.

<u>Officers and representatives</u>. Associations must have an election or agreed-upon selection process for officers and representatives.

#### Neighborhood Partnership Records

The Neighborhood Services Office requests to be kept up to date on any changes to association and club bylaws, boundaries, representatives or officers.